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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/342,926	06/30/1999	KAZUYOSHI SUMIUCHI	862.2906	7299

5514 7590 06/05/2002

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EXAMINER

TRAN, DOUGLAS Q

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2624

DATE MAILED: 06/05/2002

7

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/342,926

Applicant(s)

SUMIUCHI, KAZUYOSHI

Examiner

Douglas Q. Tran

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 30 June 1999 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 5,6.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-11, 13 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Ohta (US Patent No.6,108,008) and Hoshino (US Patent No. 5,317,426).

As to claim 1, Ohta teaches that an image processing apparatus for generating image data to be outputted by using data conversion, the apparatus comprising:

Storage (105 in fig. 7) for storing conversion table data having grid point data of a conversion table arranged by color components (i.e., CMYK) which are used to construct the image data to be outputted (col. 13, lines 21-35);

Conversion means (111 in fig. 10) for expanding the data conversion by interpolation operation based on the conversion table data (col. 13, lines 35-37).

However, Ohta does not teach conversion table data is compressed

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Hoshino teaches conversion table data is compressed in the lookup table (col. 6, lines 51-54).

It would have been obvious to modify the conversion table data of Ohta is compressed and stored in the lookup table as taught by Hoshino. The suggestion for modifying the system of Ohta can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth by Hoshino because Hoshino provides the system for color reproduction gamut on the input side is included in the color reproduction gamut on the output side by natural conversion with the entire chroma balance kept, the color reproduction obtained by the output color component image information provides satisfactory lightness and chroma.

As to claim 2, Ohta teaches that storage means for storing the expanded conversion table data (105 in fig. 7).

As to claim 3, Ohta teaches that the data conversion is a process of converting color space of image data (CMYK with 3 dimensional, col. 13, lines 21-22).

As to claim 4, Hoshino teaches that the data conversion includes complementary color conversion and ucr (from 220 in fig. 1).

As to claim 5, Hoshino teaches that sorting means for sorting the expanded conversion table data to generate a combination of plural color component data arranged by grid points (col. 6, lines 60-65, note: there are five quantization levels are provided for each of the color).

As to claim 6, Ohta teaches that

Input means (9 in fig. 6) for inputting a command indicative of print instruction and data indicative of a print medium characteristic (9 and 60 in fig. 6); and

Control means (5 in fig. 6) for expanding a plurality of conversion table data for a plurality of conversion tables corresponding to the data indicative of the print medium characteristic, and performing the data conversion by using a conversion table appropriate for a characteristic of inputted image data.

As to claims 7-11, the combination of Ohta and Hoshina teaches the methods are performed by the apparatus claims 1-6 as indicated above.

As to claim 13 and 15, the combination of Ohta and Hoshina teaches the instruction for performing claims 7 as indicated above.

4. Claims 12 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over the combination of Yoshino et al. (US Patent No.6,204,933 B1) and Hoshino (US Patent No. 5,317,426).

As to claims 12 and 14, Hoshino teaches:

Input conversion table data where combinations of plural color component data (Y', M', and C') are arranged by grid points; and compressing the conversion table data (col. 6, lines 50-59).

However, Hoshino does not teach the conversion table data is sorted.

Yoshino teaches the table is sorted (col. 9, lines 45-46).

It would have been obvious to modify the conversion table data of Hoshino is sorted in the table as taught by Yoshino. The suggestion for modifying the system of Hoshino can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art as set forth by Yoshino because Yoshino provides the

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processing system for processing the color in the printing data for a color printer in which the conversion data sorted in table that allows the mapping and converting is easily controlled and processed in the color correction system.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas Q. Tran whose telephone number is (703) 305-4857 or E-mail address is Douglas.tran@uspto.gov.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Douglas Q. Tran
June 01, 2002



JOSEPH MANCUSO
PRIMARY EXAMINER